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Boston University



**Boston University
School of Medicine**

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News & Notes

Ulene delivers BUSM commencement speech on the 'ultimate final exam'

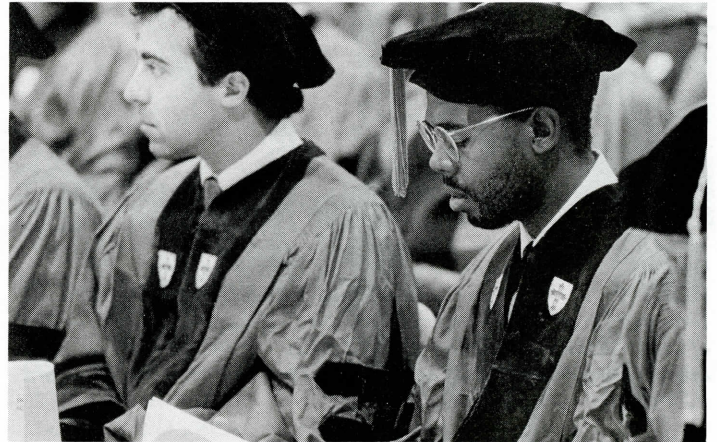
Physicians should show compassion and interest in their patients and their problems, especially in this age in which there is a trend toward impersonal, cost-efficient medicine that is heavily dependent upon high technology for diagnosing patient ills. That was the message brought to the graduating class by Arthur L. Ulene, M.D., health commentator for NBC's "Today Show," in his keynote address at the 116th School of Medicine commencement ceremony. How well the physician relates to the patient, he said, represents the ultimate final exam.

The event was held on May 15 in the Case Athletic Center on the Charles River Campus. Aram V. Chobanian, M.D., leading his first commencement as the new dean of BUSM, offered greetings on behalf of the School. Peter Friedman of Great Neck, N.Y., was the student speaker.

Thirty-seven students won awards and prizes and 14 graduated with academic honors. SueEllen Colby graduated *summa cum laude*, Beth Ann Hanrahan and Christine Campbell Reardon graduated *magna cum laude*, and 11 students graduated *cum laude*. Students Lloyd Aiello, William Quist and Jeffrey Silver earned both M.D. and Ph.D. degrees. Forty-four students enrolled in the Six-Year Combined Medical Degree Program at BUSM were among the 156 students graduating at the ceremony. Thirteen students enrolled in the Modular Medical Integrated Curriculum (MMEDIC) program also graduated. Dick A. J. Brown, M.D., an adjunct assistant clinical professor of obstetrics and gynecology, was presented with the Dr. Stanley L. Robbins Award for Excellence in Teaching.

SPH commencement speaker Levine calls health professional 'unsung hero'

In view of the monumental contributions public health professionals have made to society, why have they not received the recognition they deserve? This was the question posed by Sol Levine, Ph.D., a University Professor on leave from the University, at the SPH commencement ceremony, held on May 15 in the School for the Arts Concert Hall on the Charles River Campus. Levine, currently vice president for new program development at the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation, was the principal speaker at the ceremony, at which 121 graduates were awarded Master of Public Health degrees. (See photo on page 3.)



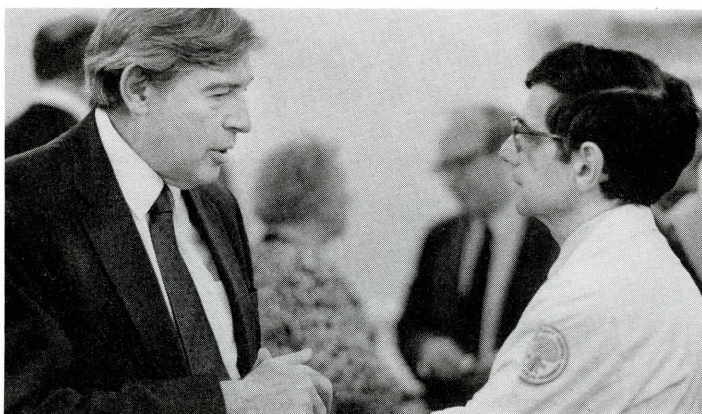
CONTEMPLATING THE FUTURE—BUSM graduates Alfred Burgo, left, and Kenneth Butler listen attentively to the addresses at the 116th School of Medicine commencement ceremony. (Photo by Bradford F. Herzog)

Public health professionals often are not conspicuous in the work they do, Levine said. The public health professional is not recognized by the public as a "singular hero," as is the surgeon who performs organ transplants, for example, he explained. But as the public becomes more aware of the fragility of the planet, he said, the public health professional will emerge as the "unsung hero." The public health professional must educate the public and must become more critical of how society handles such problems as sewage, drunk driving, acid rain and construction of automobiles. The student speaker was Gail H. Douglas, R.N.

Edward Spatz, M.D., is appointed chairman of BUSM Division of Surgery

Edward L. Spatz, M.D., a professor and chairman of the Department of Neurosurgery at the School of Medicine and chief of neurosurgery at the University Hospital, recently was appointed to the additional position of professor and chairman of the School's Division of Surgery. Spatz also was appointed surgeon-in-chief at UH and chief of general surgery at the Hospital.

Spatz, who has been on the BUSM faculty since 1968, received his medical degree in 1951 from the University of Pittsburgh and completed his residency in neurological



SPATZ HONORED AT RECEPTION—Edward Spatz, M.D., left, recently appointed chairman of the Division of Surgery at the School and surgeon-in-chief and chief of general surgery at the University Hospital, talks with Norman Levinsky, M.D., chairman of the Division of Medicine and UH physician-in-chief, at a recent reception held in honor of Spatz' appointment. (Photo by Bradford F. Herzog)

surgery at Boston City Hospital. Spatz also was an instructor in neurology at Harvard Medical School. He is certified by the American Board of Neurosurgery and the American College of Surgeons and is a member of a number of professional organizations, including the American Board of Neurological Surgery and the American College of Surgeons.

Improved shuttle-bus service to be offered; Broadway fee being dropped as of July 5

The Lot C and Broadway shuttles will have more comfortable vehicles and the Broadway shuttle service will be free of charge, beginning July 5, according to the Office of Parking Services.

The Lot C shuttle bus operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. and from 3:30 to 6:45 p.m. Pickup and discharge points are at the entrance to the Goldman School of Graduate Dentistry, in front of the Atrium Pavilion of the University Hospital, at the end of Evans Way near the School of Medicine, and at the side of the Talbot Building. The Office of Parking Services currently is exploring the possibility of erecting several shelters in Lot C for specific pickup and dropoff points, as well as additional dropoff stops, as a means of improving the running time of the shuttle.

Broadway shuttle hours

The Broadway shuttle bus operates Monday through Friday from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. (last pickup at Broadway) and from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. (last pickup at BUMC). Stops at the Medical Center are at the Goldman School entrance, in front of the Atrium Pavilion, at the end of Evans Way near the School of Medicine and at the side of the Talbot Building.

During evening and night hours when the shuttle services do not operate, an escort service is available to all Medical Center personnel, said BUMC Director of Marketing and Public Affairs Donald R. Giller. The service, which can be requested by calling x6667, will drop employees or students off at the Broadway station or at their cars parked in a BUMC parking lot.

East Newton St. MBTA bus stop relocated

The MBTA bus stop on East Newton Street recently was relocated to the front of the Atrium Pavilion.

The stop previously was located adjacent to the Health Services Building entrance on East Newton Street. This entrance to the Hospital was closed when the Atrium Pavilion opened last fall. Members of the BUMC community and visitors may stay under cover at the Atrium Pavilion plaza while awaiting their bus.

Ten BUSM faculty members awarded Whitaker Health Sciences Fund grants

Ten School of Medicine faculty members were chosen to receive 1988-89 Whitaker Health Science Fund awards for collaborative research projects with faculty at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The Fund, a biomedical research grants program that supports investigators early in their careers, awarded BUSM a total of \$600,000 in research grants, effective July 1.

The recipients are: Peter R. Bergethon, M.D., a research instructor in biochemistry and medicine; J. Krzysztof Blusztajn, M.D., Ph.D., an assistant professor of pathology; Matthew J. Fenton, M.D., an assistant research professor of medicine; Howard K. Koh, M.D., an assistant professor of dermatology; Hardy Kornfeld, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine; Simon Levy, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of physiology; Rahul Ray, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of biochemistry; Barbara A. Seaton, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of physiology; Alan M. Sugar, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine; and Miriam S. Schweber, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of biochemistry.

Two M.D.-Ph.D. students receive Howard Hughes Institute fellowships

Two M.D.-Ph.D. candidates at the School of Medicine recently were awarded Howard Hughes Medical Institute Doctoral Fellowships in Biological Sciences. Darrel P. Cohen and Wilfred Sifuel Mamuya will receive the three-year fellowships with an option to extend the grant for an additional two years. With the stipends awarded directly to the students and allowances provided to BUSM, the fellowships total more than \$200,000. The awards represent the first time that BUSM has received Hughes Medical Institute monies.

Mamuya, who grew up in Tanzania in East Africa, completed his second year at BUSM this spring. His research activities at the School focus on the biochemistry of cardiovascular disease, particularly hypertension and atherosclerosis of the aorta. Mamuya is working in the laboratory of Peter Brecher, Ph.D., a professor of biochemistry. Cohen, who is in his third year at BUSM, currently is studying the microbiology of the immune system. His research concentrates on how B-cells, the cells in the body responsible for making antibodies, are activated. Cohen is working in the laboratory of Paul Black, M.D., chairman of the Department of Microbiology.

New "talking" computer improves monitoring of hypertensive patients

Physicians at the School of Medicine and the University Hospital have developed an automated, computer-based telephone system that monitors the health of patients and can immediately communicate important information about a patient's current condition to the physician. The technology, which uses Digital Equipment Corporation's Dectalk speech synthesis, now is being tested by researchers at BUSM and UH on 10 patients who have hypertension.

Using the latest computer voice technology, the Telephone-Linked Computer system (TLC) is programmed to make phone calls automatically to the homes of patients with high blood pressure and to ask the patients very specific questions. Robert Friedman, M.D., an associate professor of medicine, an adjunct assistant professor of public health and the project director, estimates that each call takes three minutes to complete and costs about 75 cents.

The patient, who is given a blood pressure kit to use at home, is asked to give his most recent blood pressure recording and to respond to questions about his current health. Patients communicate with the computer by pressing buttons on a regular touch-tone telephone. The TLC system also responds to the patients, giving them feedback about how well they are doing. The system can make a phone call to a doctor to report information about a patient who requires immediate attention. The work is being conducted in the Medical Information Systems Unit at BUSM and in the Evans Medical Group at UH.

School of Medicine faculty members receive research support grants

Seventeen School of Medicine faculty members received a total of \$87,815 in research support during 1987-88 from a federal Biomedical Research Support Grant (BRSG) to BUSM, according to Edward W. Pelikan, M.D., chairman of the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics and chairman of the BUSM Faculty Grants Committee. BRSG funds, which are distributed annually by the National Institutes of Health, are based on an institution's level of federal funding for the previous year.

The awardees are: Robert D. Arbeit, M.D., an associate professor of medicine; Douglas Cotanche, Ph.D., an assistant professor of anatomy; Burton Dickey, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine (Pulmonary Center); Susan Fisher, Ph.D., an associate professor of microbiology; Erwin F. Hirsch, M.D., a professor of surgery and chief of the School's Section of Trauma; Martin Joyce-Brady, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine (Pulmonary Center); Robert Katz, Ph.D., and Lewis P. Shapiro, Ph.D., both assistant research professors of neurology; Hardy Kornfeld, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine (Pulmonary Center); Roy A. Levine, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of medicine (Pulmonary Center); James Menzoian, M.D., a professor of surgery; George A. Peterkin, M.D., a research fellow in surgery; Norbert G. Riedel, Ph.D., an assistant research professor of medicine (Pulmonary Center); Suzanne Steinbach, M.D., an assistant professor of pediatrics; Michael T. Watkins, M.D., an instructor in surgery; Raphael A. Zoeller, Ph.D., an assistant professor of medicine and biochemistry (biophysics); and Lawrence C. Zoller, Ph.D., an associate professor of anatomy.

Information about BRSG research support and eligibility can be obtained from Pelikan in L-603 or by calling him at x4300 (638-4300).

Medical Campus employees honored at Annual Service Recognition Dinner

Medical Campus employees who will be retiring and those who have completed 10 or 25 years of service between July 1, 1987, and June 30, 1988, recently were honored at the University's Annual Service Recognition Dinner, held in the ballroom of the George Sherman Union on the Charles River Campus. Dean Emeritus John Sandson was master of ceremonies at the event.



PREPARING FOR THE CEREMONY—Lining up before the School of Public Health commencement ceremony are, from left to right, Nancy Adams, Karen Alves, Zarni Amri, Cheryl Anthony and Janet Belanger. (Photo by Gustav Freedman)

Medical Campus employees who were recognized this year for retirement included Arthur Alleyne, a senior custodian, with 23 years of service; Anthony Cannone, former mail room supervisor, with 14 years of service; Melvin Rosenthal, Ph.D., a staff psychologist and a professor emeritus, with 30 years of service; and Phyllis Schiarizzi, a senior secretary at the School, with 13 years of service.

Those recognized for 25 years of service to the University included: BUSM Dean Aram V. Chobanian, M.D.; Sidney L. Dale, Ph.D., a research biochemist; Carl Franzblau, Ph.D., chairman of the Department of Biochemistry; Paul Kaufman, M.D., an associate professor of psychiatry; Herbert L. Kayne, Ph.D., an associate professor of physiology and biometrics; Robert S. Pierce, an assistant supervisor at the Laboratory Animal Science Center; Karl Schmid, Ph.D., a professor of biochemistry; and Louis Vachon, M.D, chairman of the School's Division of Psychiatry.

The following employees were recognized for 10 years of service: Leonard D. Berman, M.D., Gregory K. Binus, M.D., Kevin M. Crowell, Joseph A. DeLellis, Anne G. Der Hagopian, Barbara A. DiRusso, Lillian A. Eichorn, Victor N. Evdokimoff, M.S., Sc.M., William J. Gasper, Diane R. Glickman, Nancy J. Golden, Deborah Govan, Janet M. Harry, Lisa K. Jackson, Catherine T. Julius, Susan E. Kelleher, Phillip P. Kelly, Louise A. Kimball, Barbara L. Lauchle, R.N., Joseph M. Lenehan, M.D., John Hayes Mason, Richard L. McHugh, Robert F. Meenan, M.D., M.P.H., V. Renee Montgomery, James Monroe, David M. Ozonoff, M.D., M.P.H., June M. Russo, John H. Schwartz, M.D., Jacquelyn A. Smith, Barbara J. St. Onge, R. Knight Steele, M.D., Jonathan P. Strang, M.D., Virginia C. Trainor, Abdulmaged M. Traish, Ph.D., Virginia A. Vida, Sheila A. Welch, Ellen P. Wiklanski, Ellen S. Yadon and Lynda Yalmokas.

News & Notes is a publication of the Office of Publication Services. If you have news of interest to the BUSM community, please contact editor Cynthia Koury, x8482 (638-8482) or write to her at the Office of Publication Services, DOB-915 (720 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02118). Marge Dwyer is managing editor.

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